(a) whether it is a fact that import for ammunition for 155mm Bofor Guns was to be phased out through indigenous production;

(b) if so, the policy in this regard, the details of the original (and revised, if any) scheme of phasing out the item-wise imports and the progress in this direction;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) item-wise quantity and value of import of different items of ammunition for Bofor Guns, during the last three years and their annual requirements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to(d) Production of 155mm ammunition has already started indigenously. A few types of the ammunition have been established and supplied to the Army. In the last three years there has been no import of this ammunition.

Procurement of boots for armed forces

339. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined the cost of procurement for DMS boots and shoes for armed forces in consultation with BICP;

(b) whether the procurement price has been much less than the cost price during the last two years;

(c) whether any effective steps have been taken to ensure proper quality of procurement; and

(d) if so, the facts and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The cost price has not been worked out. Hence, no comparison can be made between procurement price and cost price.

(c) and (d) All stores are purchased after inspection to ensure adherence to quality specification.

Productions in Ordnance factory

340. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of requirements of armament equipment and other things manufactured by the Ordnance factory;

(b) the value of production of ordnance factories for the civil sector during the past four years and the percentage it constitutes of the total production;

(c) the percentage of production capacity lying idle and the estimated value thereof; and

(d) whether Government have taken final decision for the manufacture of ammunition for the Bofor guns in facilities created in the country and if so, by when the production is likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) In terms of value, about 80 per cent of turnover of ordnance factories is for the defence forces.